CLAIMS

1. Apparatus for preventing fluid transfer through an opening connecting an oviduct to a uterine cavity, the apparatus comprising:

a body having a base with a periphery;

a seal carried by the body for overlying and engaging uterine tissue leading to the opening and receiving fibroblast in-growth to create a hermetic seal between the oviduct and the uterine cavity; and

a peripheral anchor portion extending from the base for securing the body to the uterine tissue leading to the opening, the base overlying the opening.

2. Apparatus of claim 1, wherein the peripheral anchor portion comprises a plurality of spikes extending from the periphery of the base.

3. Apparatus of claim 2, wherein the spikes terminate in a tissue engaging structure.

4. Apparatus of claim 3, wherein the tissue engagement structure includes barbs.

5. Apparatus of claim 1, wherein the peripheral anchor portion includes a helical blade extending radially outwardly from the base.

6. Apparatus of claim 5, wherein the helical blade is carried by a blade disk coupled to the base.

7. Apparatus of claim 1, wherein the body supports an engaging member that may be grasp by a tool and which allows the apparatus to be manipulated during installation.

8. Apparatus of claim 7, wherein the engaging member is carried by an extension of the body.

9. Apparatus of claim 1, wherein the seal is formed of a biocompatible material that stimulates in-growth of fibroblastic tissue.

10. Apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the body is fabricated of a biodegradable material.

11. Apparatus for preventing fluid transfer through an opening connecting an oviduct to a uterine cavity, the apparatus comprising:

a body;

a seal coupled to the body for engaging uterine tissue surrounding and defining the opening, the seal formed of a biocompatible material that stimulates in-growth of fibroblastic tissue to create a continuous hermetic seal; and

a peripheral anchor portion supported by the body for engaging the uterine tissue and maintaining the seal in engagement to the uterine tissue surrounding and defining the opening, the seal overlying the opening.

12. Apparatus of claim 11, wherein the peripheral anchor portion comprises a plurality of spikes extending from the periphery of the base.

13. Apparatus of claim 12, wherein the spikes terminate in a tissue engaging structure.

14. Apparatus of claim 13, wherein the tissue engagement structure includes barbs.

15. Apparatus of claim 11, wherein the peripheral anchor portion includes a plurality of helical blades extending radially outwardly from the base for entering uterine tissue upon the application of a twisting movement of the body.

16. Apparatus of claim 15, wherein the helical blades are carried by a blade disk coupled to the base.

17. Apparatus of claim 11, wherein the body supports an engaging member that may be grasp by a tool and which allows the apparatus to be manipulated during installation.

18. Apparatus of claim 17, wherein the engaging member is carried by an extension of the body.

19. Apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein the body is fabricated of a biodegradable material.

20. A method of preventing fluid transfer through an opening connecting an oviduct to a uterine cavity, the method comprising the steps of:

providing apparatus comprising a body having a base with a periphery, a seal formed of a biocompatible material that stimulates in-growth of fibroblastic tissue carried by the body and a peripheral anchor portion extending from the base;

positioning the apparatus with the seal overlying and engaging uterine tissue leading to the opening;

inserting the peripheral anchor portion into the uterine tissue surrounding and defining the opening; and

receiving fibroblast in-growth in the seal to create a hermetic seal between the oviduct and the uterine cavity.